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REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application as amended is requested.

In the Office Action dated July 3, 2003, claim 19 was objected to. Claim 19 has been amended to recite "coupled to said drive shaft", and is therefore now believed to be clear and definite.

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the prior art disclosed by Applicant in view of Baker U.S. Patent No. 4,602,176, in further view of Borgman et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,224,429, and in further view of Lambrecht et al. U.S. Patent No. Re. 28,816. Applicants submit that all of the pending claims, as amended herein, are patentable over the cited references for those reasons set forth in more detail below.

Initially, Applicants note that it is impermissible within the framework of §103 to pick and choose from any one reference only so much of it as will support a given position to the exclusion of other parts necessary to the full appreciation of what such reference fairly suggests to one skilled in the art. *In re Wesslau*, 353 F.2d 238, 241, 147 USPQ 391, 393 (CCPA 1965); see also *In re Mercer*, 515 F.2d 1161, 1165-66, 185 USPQ 774,778 (CCPA 1975).

As discussed in the Background portion of the present application at page 1, known electrically driven telescopic table legs suffer from vibration transmitted from the motor through the support structure and legs of the table. Although numerous approaches had been tried, including motor mounting pads, the vibration and noise problems associated with electrically powered telescopic table legs have not been adequately resolved. In particular, known telescopic table leg arrangements require a mechanical interconnection to prevent movement of the motor device assembly about the axis of the drive screw when actuated, such that a source of transmission of vibration and noise remain in such systems. Baker '176 teaches a stud 25 having an optional end portion 47 of a smaller diameter than base portion 45.

Grommet portion 49 is clear of smaller diameter portion 47 of stud 25, such that the grommet portion 49 "is substantially free to elastically flex in transverse direction relative to the stud without interference from stud 25." Column 4, lines 64-66. Baker '176 also indicates that the particular application in the disclosure relates to mounting an electric motor on the

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transmission case of washing machine. Baker '176 therefore does not teach that such an arrangement would be suitable or beneficial for use in a telescopic leg assembly. Applicants respectfully submit that it is improper to pick and choose the specific features of Baker '176 and Borgman '695 for combination, and that the cited references do not teach or suggest the arrangement of claim 1.

Claims 2-9 depend from claim 1, and are therefore believed to be allowable for those reasons set forth above with respect to claim 1. Furthermore, claim 8 has been amended to recite that the pin includes a tapered portion in contact with the elastomeric element to thereby substantially prevent movement of the motor assembly relative to the base. As discussed above, Baker '176 teaches providing a gap between the end of the stud and the grommet to permit side-to-side movement. In contrast, Applicants' tapered pin contacts an elastomeric element to substantially prevent movement. Accordingly, claim 8 is believed to be allowable for this reason as well as those set forth above in connection with claim 1.

Claim 10 has been amended to recite that the pin extends through the aperture and engages the elastomeric element to prevent movement of the motor assembly about the axis of the drive screw. As discussed above, prior attempts to solve the problems associated with telescoping table legs utilized a mechanical interconnection to prevent movement of the motor drive assembly about the axis of the drive screw, such that a source of transmission of vibration and noise remained in such systems. As also discussed above, Baker '176 is specifically designed to be substantially free to elastically flex in a transverse direction relative to the stud without interference from the stud 25. Accordingly, the telescopic leg assembly of claim 10, as amended herein, is not believed to be disclosed or suggested by the cited references.

Claims 11-18 depend from claim 10, and are therefore believed to be allowable for those reasons set forth above with respect to claim 10.

Claim 19 recites a motor mount for isolating vibrations between a motor and a driven element. The motor mount includes a motor assembly including a drive shaft, and a base for supporting a driven element coupled to the drive shaft. The motor mount also includes an elastomeric coupling between the motor assembly and the base. The elastomeric coupling

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prevents rotation of the motor assembly relative to the base. A thrust bearing engages the base and driven elements such that forces applied to the base are compressably transmitted to the driven element through the thrust bearing washer. As discussed above in connection with claim 1, Applicants submit that one skilled in the art would not pick and choose specific features from the prior art to provide the motor mount of the present application. Furthermore, as also discussed above, Baker '176 does not teach an elastomeric coupling that prevents rotation as recited in amended claim 19, such that claim 19 is believed to be allowable for this reason as well.

Claim 20 depends from claim 19, and is therefore believed to be allowable for those reasons set forth above with respect to claim 19.

Applicants have made a concerted effort to place the present application in condition for allowance, and a notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. In the event there are any remaining informalities, the courtesy of a telephone call to the undersigned attorney would be appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: Price, Heneveld, Cooper,
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